

# FMBC News



Volume 10, Issue 9

NOVEMBER 2025

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### Sunday, November 16

Please join the FMBC Church Family for Thanksgiving Dinner in the Christian Life Center (the gym) following the morning service.

Everyone is welcome!

*This is a Covered Dish Meal so please bring a side dish or dessert to go with a Thanksgiving Main Course.*

*Also, please bring a contribution of canned or dry goods food to give to Christ Central, New Ellenton. Thank you!*

## WELCOME TO FMBC!

The members of Foreman Memorial Baptist Church have welcomed our new pastor and wife as of October 5, 2025. Dr. Edward ("Pastor Eddie") Ildefonso, Jr. and his wife Elia, were God-sent to lead us as we were searching for a pastor.

Pastor Eddie has had 40 years of pastoral ministry experience and believed the Lord has uniquely prepared him to serve our congregation at FMBC by faithfully proclaiming God's Word, equipping the saints for ministry, and leading with humility and vision. Pastor Eddie has served as Senior Pastor at West Los Angeles Christian Church, Los Angeles, California; Grace Baptist Church in Cusco, Peru (5 years), and for the past year as Associate Pastor at Town Creek Baptist Church in Aiken, SC. He is a Professor of Covington Theological Seminary, and President of the Talmid School of Theology, overseeing 73 International Extensions. He has served and continues to serve in many ways that are too numerous to list in this introduction, and we discover more of the gifts God has given him and Elia all the time.

He and Elia now share in, and are excited about, the opportunity to reach the community at FMBC and the New Ellenton area. This has been a vision that the Foreman Future Team discussed and prayed about at length in our meetings with Pastor Richard, Karen, several church members and Steve Simpson (Associational Missions Strategist, Aiken Baptist Association) earlier this year. We are thankful for their willingness to serve at FMBC and count their arrival an answer to those prayers. More prayers are being answered every day, and we look forward to serving with them now and in the future. Welcome to FMBC!



Mrs. Elia Ildefonso and Pastor Eddie Ildefonso (October 26, 2025)

# **Salvation Through Jesus Christ: The Only Way to Heaven**

Pastor Eddie Ildefonso

## **Introduction**

In every generation, humanity has searched for the answer to life's greatest question: ***How can a person be right with God?*** Across cultures and centuries, men and women have built religions, philosophies, and moral codes in pursuit of eternal peace. Yet Scripture declares that there is only one way—a narrow way—by which humanity can be reconciled to God: through faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

**“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”— John 14:6 (NKJV)**

This statement by Jesus is not one of arrogance but of divine authority. It excludes every other path to heaven not out of cruelty but out of truth—because only through Christ's death and resurrection can the penalty of sin be paid and the relationship between God and man restored.

## **1. The Problem: Humanity's Separation from God**

The starting point of salvation is understanding the reality of sin. The Bible declares:

**“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”— Romans 3:23 (NKJV)**

Sin is not merely a list of mistakes; it is rebellion against a holy God. The result is spiritual death and eternal separation from the One who created us for fellowship with Himself. No amount of good works, religious devotion, or moral improvement can bridge that chasm. Isaiah warned that **“all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags” (Isaiah 64:6)**.

Without divine intervention, humanity is lost. This is why salvation cannot come through philosophy, culture, or self-effort. It must come through God's own initiative—through grace.

## **2. The Solution: God's Provision Through Jesus Christ**

God's love did not abandon humanity in its fallen state. In His mercy, He provided a Savior.

**“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”— Romans 6:23 (NKJV)**

Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, came to earth as fully God and fully man. He lived the sinless life we could not live and died the death we deserved. On the cross, He bore our sins, satisfying divine justice and extending divine mercy. His resurrection proved His victory over death, sin, and Satan.

This is why **only** Jesus can save. No other religious leader—Buddha, Muhammad, Confucius, or any other—claimed to bear the sins of the world or to rise from the dead. Jesus' resurrection is not merely symbolic; it is historical evidence of His divine identity and redemptive power.

**“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”— Acts 4:12 (NKJV)**

## **3. The Exclusivity of Christ's Salvation**

Modern society often recoils at the exclusivity of the gospel, preferring the idea that all sincere paths lead to God. But sincerity cannot erase falsehood. A person can be sincere—and still be sincerely wrong.

Truth by its nature is exclusive. Two opposing claims cannot be true. Jesus did not claim to be *a* way among many; He declared Himself to be *the* way. If He is who He said He is—God in the flesh—then His way is not one option among many, but the only door into eternal life.

**“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction... Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”— Matthew 7:13–14 (NKJV)**

## **Salvation Through Jesus Christ: The Only Way to Heaven - Continued**

### **4. The Simplicity of Salvation: Faith in Christ Alone**

God does not require elaborate rituals or impossible works to gain salvation. The message of the gospel is simple yet profound: salvation is a gift received by faith.

**“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”— Ephesians 2:8–9 (NKJV)**

To believe in Christ is to trust in His finished work—His death for your sins and His resurrection for your justification. When a sinner repents and places faith in Jesus, he or she is forgiven, born again, and adopted into the family of God.

Faith is not merely intellectual agreement; it is surrender—a personal trust that Jesus is Lord and Savior.

### **5. The Assurance of Heaven**

Heaven is not a reward for good behavior but the home of those who have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. Jesus promised:

**“In My Father’s house are many mansions... I go to prepare a place for you.”— John 14:2 (NKJV)**

The believer’s hope is secure because it rests not on human merit but on divine promise. Because Jesus lives, those who believe in Him will live also (John 11:25–26). Our assurance of heaven is anchored in the unchanging grace of God.

### **6. The Urgency of the Gospel**

The exclusivity of Christ’s salvation also means urgency. Every soul must hear and respond to the gospel. There is no neutrality with Jesus—He is either Lord of all or not Lord at all.

**“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already.”— John 3:18 (NKJV)**

The love of Christ compels us to share this message with a world seeking truth in all the wrong places. Heaven is real, hell is real, and the cross stands as the bridge between the two.

### **Conclusion: The Cross Is the Only Way Home**

At the heart of the Christian message is not a system, but a Savior. The cross of Christ is God’s declaration that humanity’s sin has been dealt with, once for all. There is no salvation apart from Jesus, for there is no other who could bear the weight of our sin or satisfy the holiness of God. **“Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” — Romans 5:1 (KJV)**

The door of grace stands open, but it will not remain open forever. To reject Christ is to reject the only way to heaven. To receive Him is to find forgiveness, life, and eternal joy in the presence of God.

**Choose today the only Way that leads home—Jesus Christ.**

### **Suggested Scripture References:**

- John 3:16–18
- Acts 4:12
- Romans 5:8–11
- Ephesians 2:8–9
- 1 Timothy 2:5–6
- Hebrews 10:10–14
- Revelation 21:1–7



**The Foreman Memorial Baptist Church Family, picture taken Sunday, October 19, 2025**  
*(A few got away before the picture was taken, but this was almost everyone!)*



**The praise team  
and Pastor Brian  
Henderson,  
leading in  
worship on  
Sunday night,  
October 5, 2025.**



**We had a “full  
house” every night  
they were in town,  
and the Lord was  
glorified in all that  
was done.**

Many thanks to **Pastor Brian Henderson** and **BRICK Missions** for allowing FMBC to share in your ministry to the local community by providing a venue and some help from church members. BRICK members were at our campus from Sunday night, October 5 through Thursday night, October 9, with a special family night on Thursday including those whose homes were repaired during the week. It was a time of blessing for all concerned. <https://brickmissions.com/>



# Fall Bulletin Board

## NOVEMBER BIBLE READING PLAN

- ☐ 1. Deuteronomy 8:1-20
- ☐ 2. Deuteronomy 9:1-29
- ☐ 3. Deuteronomy 10:1-22
- ☐ 4. Deuteronomy 11:1-32
- ☐ 5. Deuteronomy 12:1-32
- ☐ 6. Deuteronomy 13:1-18
- ☐ 7. Deuteronomy 14:1-29
- ☐ 8. Deuteronomy 15:1-23
- ☐ 9. Deuteronomy 16:1-22
- ☐ 10. Deuteronomy 17:1-20
- ☐ 11. Deuteronomy 18:1-22
- ☐ 12. Deuteronomy 19:1-21
- ☐ 13. Deuteronomy 20:1-20
- ☐ 14. Deuteronomy 21:1-23
- ☐ 15. Deuteronomy 22:1-30
- ☐ 16. Deuteronomy 23:1-25
- ☐ 17. Deuteronomy 24:1-22
- ☐ 18. Deuteronomy 25:1-19
- ☐ 19. Deuteronomy 26:1-19
- ☐ 20. Deuteronomy 27:1-26
- ☐ 21. Deuteronomy 28:1-26
- ☐ 22. Deuteronomy 28:27-44
- ☐ 23. Deuteronomy 28:45-68
- ☐ 24. Deuteronomy 29:1-29
- ☐ 25. Deuteronomy 30:1-20
- ☐ 26. Deuteronomy 31:1-30
- ☐ 27. Deuteronomy 32:1-27
- ☐ 28. Deuteronomy 32:28-52
- ☐ 29. Deuteronomy 33:1-29
- ☐ 30. Deuteronomy 34:1-12

### Shoebox News

Please put the **FMBC Shoebox Packing Party, Sunday, November 2 at 12:00 Noon**, on your calendar! **Lunch will be provided.** Everyone is welcome to come and help. **All** shoeboxes need to be turned in by Sunday, November 9.

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### Adults on Mission

Adults on Mission will meet **Monday, November 10 at 10:00 AM**. Everyone is welcome to come and join in learning about, and praying for, Southern Baptist missions. Meet in the Golden Circle classroom next to the sanctuary.

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### King's Kids Club & YouthZone Wed. at 6:00

All children ages 5K through Grade 12 are invited. **YouthZone** now meets in the Staff House across Pine Street from the Main church building. **Kings Kids Club** now meets in the front of the **East Building (next to the sanctuary entrance)** facing Smith Avenue.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Ladies' Bible Studies

Please join us for Thursday morning Bible Studies every week at 10:30 AM in the Golden Circle Classroom on the Pine Street side of the sanctuary. All ladies welcome!

\*\*\*\*\*

WITH DEEPEST  
*Sympathy*

**Our deepest sympathy, love and heartfelt prayers for Pastor Eddie and Elia in the loss of their son on October 15, 2025. Both of them and their family are in our thoughts and prayers.**

**Memorial Service for**

**Eduardo R. Ildefonso**

**Saturday, November 8, 2025, at 10:00 AM at Centinela Bible Church  
4475 West 137<sup>th</sup> Street, Hawthorne, California 90250**

**Pastor Eddie Ildefonso will be officiating the service.**

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**The FMBC Family sends love, prayers and sympathy to the Eaves family in the loss of Mrs. Karen Cook Eaves. She entered into eternal rest on Thursday, October 2, 2025 at her home. She was a dedicated member of Pineview Baptist Church, Aiken SC; and was a faithful former member of Foreman Memorial Baptist Church for many years.**

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## Members' Health Concerns

Edna Hanna  
John McKinney  
Kay McKinney  
Yvonne Nordeen  
Louise Parrish  
Gloria Shaw

## All Seniors & Caregivers

Friends/Family Health Concerns

## Pray for our Bereaved Families

Family of Karen Eaves, 10/2/25  
Family of Eduardo Ildefonso, 10/15/25

## Other Requests

Visitors & Families  
Our Community  
Other Area Churches  
New Ellenton Christ Central  
Life Choices Pregnancy Care Center  
Aiken Baptist Association  
Aiken Schools, Teachers/Students  
Our Country, State & Local Leaders  
Daniel Braswell & Family-9 mo. deployment

## Church Leaders/Ministries

Pastor Eddie & Elia Ildefonso  
Deacons, Trustees, Ministry Asst.  
Sunday School Teachers/Leaders  
All FMBC Committees  
Adults on Mission  
YouthZone  
King's Kids Club  
Ladies' Thursday Bible Studies  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Men's Prayer Breakfast

For more details, please go to our Website at [www.foremanbaptist.com](http://www.foremanbaptist.com) and click the Prayer List link.

## FINANCIAL REPORT – OCTOBER 2025

**TITHES & OFFERINGS: \$11,231.00**

**EAST BUILDING FUND TOTAL GIVEN: \$43,928.00** (Goal \$50,000)

**JANIE CHAPMAN OFFERING FOR SC MISSIONS: \$1,821.00** (Final)

Building Restoration in Christ's Kingdom  
2503 Green Pond Road  
Jackson, SC 29831  
Tax ID: 86-1546765



Foreman Memorial Baptist Church  
207 Smith Avenue  
New Ellenton, SC 29809

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We cannot begin to express our gratitude for your hospitality during BRICK Aiken 2025. Your willingness to house our participants, clean shower trailers, pack coolers, serve food, worship with us, and more was so welcoming and refreshing! We literally could not have done it without you!

Because of your helpfulness, we were able to repair the homes of 8 local homeowners and show them the love of Jesus. Each was given a "Prayer Square", engaged in conversation about Jesus, loved on by the crew members, and invited to dinner and worship with us all while the home was being repaired by a crew of all ages of volunteers. We had 5 of 8 homeowners in attendance on Family Night, October 9, 2025!

Home repairs included everything from jacking up bathroom floors on which to place new toilets and tubs to providing a home with light. Some homes had holes in the roof which were leaking. Several had rotted flooring which presented danger to the those living in the home. All eight homes were left better and safer than they were found! Please visit the BRICK Inc Facebook page to see photos from all eight projects. Some members of Foreman Memorial are in the photos! We can also be found at [www.brickmissions.com](http://www.brickmissions.com).

We hope that you experienced the love of Christ while we were in your facility. You are now considered a part of the BRICK family! Participants that have been to BRICK for years call it a "family reunion". We enjoy serving, eating, worshipping, and serving together. Perhaps in 2026 some of your members would like to volunteer on a crew! The 2026 project dates will be announced soon.

Thank you again for your hospitality. We appreciate everything Foreman Memorial Baptist Church did and provided for our participants.

Brian Henderson  
Executive Director

## ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

**Thank you** for reading the FMBC News! We covet your prayers and support. Please contact the church office if you know of anyone who wishes to **subscribe** — the subscription is free. We always welcome and encourage new subscribers! To **unsubscribe** please either:



- Mail a request to 207 Smith Ave, New Ellenton SC 29809
- Send email to: [fmbc.church@outlook.com](mailto:fmbc.church@outlook.com)
- Personal Message on Facebook.
- Call the church office at 803-652-2242 and leave a message.

**Thank you!**  
Wendy Grigsby, Editor



2025

**SUNDAYS:** 9:45 AM Bible Study Classes ♦ 11 AM Worship Service ♦ 5 PM Worship Service  
**WEDNESDAYS:** 6:00 PM Prayer & Bible Study; YouthZone Grades 6-12; King's Kids Grades K-5  
**THURSDAYS:** 10:30 AM Ladies' Bible Study ♦ **FIRST SATURDAYS ONLY:** 9:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>October 31</b> <i>New Ellenton City Trunk or Treat 5-8 Evans Park</i>	<b>1</b> 9:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
<b>2</b> 9:45 - Sun. Sch. 11 - Worship 12 - Shoebox Packing Party & Lunch, CLC 5 - Worship	<b>3</b> 6:00 PM Buildings & Grounds Meeting	<b>4</b> <b>Election Day</b> <i>(go to <a href="https://scvotes.gov">scvotes.gov</a> for a sample ballot)</i>	<b>5</b> 6:00 Service 6:00 YouthZone, King's Kids Club	<b>6</b> 10:30 am Ladies' Bible Study-East Bldg.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Shoeboxes Due 9:45 - Sun. Sch. 11 - Worship 4 - Finance Comm. 5 - Worship	<b>10</b> 10:00 AM Adults on Mission	<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b> 6:00 Service 6:00 YouthZone, King's Kids Club	<b>13</b> 10:30 am Ladies' Bible Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:45 Sun. Sch. 11 - Worship and Baptisms 12 - Thanksgiving <i>No PM Service</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00 Service 6:00 YouthZone, King's Kids Club	<b>20</b> 10:30 am Ladies' Bible Study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:45 - Sun. Sch. 11 - Worship 12 - Church Meeting 5 - Worship	<b>24</b> Office open 9-4	<b>25</b> Office open 9-4	<b>26</b> <i>Wednesday Night Activities Cancelled</i>	<b>27</b> <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> <i>No Ladies' Bible Study</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:45 - Sun. Sch. 11 - Worship 5 - Worship	<div>             give thanks              IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOU IN CHRIST JESUS.              1 Thessalonians 5:18           </div>					

Regular FMBC Church Office Hours: Monday & Thursday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (1-2 Lunch break)